



# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

## OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

### *FOIA Service Center*

June 19, 2019

Emma Best  
MuckRock News  
DEPT MR 56693  
411-A Highland Avenue  
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

### **RE: 20 –DAY NOTIFICATION**

Dear Emma Best:

This is the Department of Education's (the Department) initial determination letter to your request dated, May 28, 2019, seeking information pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552. Your request was forwarded to the appropriate office(s) within the Department for any responsive documents they may have.

Due to the unusual circumstances that exist with your FOIA requests as defined by U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(B)(i)(ii), the Department will not be able to respond by the 20 day statutory requirement. The scope of your FOIA requests requires the Department to conduct a vast search across multiple program offices, which we anticipate will result in a large amount of responsive records.

We aim to complete your requests as promptly as possible. At this time, we are unable to provide an estimated completion date, but intend to provide records on a rolling basis as they become available. Should you wish to narrow the scope of your requests, this action may limit the number of potentially responsive records, and speed the necessary processing.

You have the right to seek assistance and/or dispute resolution services from the Department's FOIA Public Liaison or the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). The FOIA Public Liaison is responsible, among other duties, for assisting in the resolution of FOIA disputes. OGIS, which is outside the Department of Education, offers mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation.

They can be contacted by:

Mail	FOIA Public Liaison Office of the Executive Secretariat U.S. Department of Education 400 Maryland Ave., SW, LBJ	Office of Government Information Services National Archives and Records Administration 8601 Adelphi Road College Park, MD 20740-6001
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400 MARYLAND AVE., S.W., WASHINGTON, DC 20202-4500  
[www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov)

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	7C132 Washington, DC 20202-4500	
E-mail	<a href="mailto:robert.wehausen@ed.gov">robert.wehausen@ed.gov</a>	<a href="mailto:OGIS@nara.gov">OGIS@nara.gov</a>
Phone	202-205-0733	202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448
Fax	202-401-0920	202-741-5769

Sincerely

**Elise Cook**

Elise Cook  
Government Information Specialist  
Executive Secretariat